



# Hon. Robert T. Matsui

## Member of Congress

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*Robert T. Matsui*  
Serving California's 5th District

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### **MATSUI REAFFIRMS SUPPORT FOR IDENTITY THEFT PROTECTION BILL**

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congressman Robert T. Matsui (D-Sacramento) today reconfirmed his support of restricting the use of individuals' Social Security numbers by the public and private sectors in order to protect Americans from identification theft.

"Identity theft is one of the fastest-growing crimes in this country," Matsui said. "We need to take steps to protect people vulnerable to this threat, while recognizing the balance between privacy protections and legitimate business and government transactions."

Social Security numbers are frequently used to identify financial accounts and access private information. The widespread use of Social Security numbers and their connection to private information makes people increasingly vulnerable to violations of their privacy. People whose identities have been stolen risk losing their savings, their credit rating, and their good financial standing.

Congressman Matsui is a co-sponsor of H.R. 2971, the Social Security Number Privacy and Identity Theft Prevention Act of 2003. The legislation would direct federal and local government agencies to remove Social Security numbers from documents such as driver's licenses and Social Security checks. It would also prohibit public and private agencies from selling lists of Social Security numbers.

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